

Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan. The President welcomed the Kyrgyz leader, noting his bold support of human rights, democracy, and market reform in the Kyrgyz Republic. During their talks, the President and Vice President discussed a wide range of issues of mutual concern with President Akayev and welcomed the expansion of bilateral ties between our two countries.

The U.S. remains committed to assisting the Kyrgyz Republic in its difficult transition to a democratic and market-oriented system. The President and Vice President congratulated the Kyrgyz leader for being the first of the new independent states of the former Soviet Union to conclude a stand-by agreement with the International Monetary Fund to promote financial stabilization. They singled out Kyrgyzstan as a model for the other new independent states, praising President Akayev for his government's bold pursuit of macroeconomic stabilization and democratic reform.

### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Cabinet Meeting**

*May 21, 1993*

#### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, have you reached agreement with the Russians on a Bosnia policy?

**The President.** Well, Secretary Christopher is talking to Foreign Minister Kozyrev today, and we will try to reach an agreement about what we do next. As you know, the United States is skeptical that we'll be able to satisfactorily resolve this within the framework that has been proposed, but we do want to work with our allies. And we're trying our best to reach a joint position, and I hope we can do it.

**Q.** Are you still ruling out safe havens?

**The President.** Well, I don't want to see the United States get in a position where we are recreating Northern Ireland or Lebanon or Cyprus or anything else. There may be some potential down the road for something to be done in connection with the peace-keeping operation, but I think it's something we have to be very skeptical about. We don't

want our people in there basically in a shooting gallery.

**Q.** —the issue, though, for now of the land the Serbs have grabbed by force in favor of the idea of this containment?

**The President.** I will say what I said from the very beginning. Our fundamental interests here, the United States interests, are two. We want the conflict to be contained, and we want the slaughter and the ethnic cleansing to stop. We believe in order to get that done ultimately there will have to be some reasonable borders, some political solution to this which has a reasonable territorial component. And we'll just have to see what happens over the next few weeks.

NOTE: The exchange began at 10:15 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### **Proclamation 6564—National Maritime Day, 1993**

*May 21, 1993*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

On May 22, 1819, the first transatlantic steamship voyage began when the SS *Savannah* left the U.S. port of Savannah, Georgia. Sixty years ago, in recognition of this historic voyage, President Franklin D. Roosevelt first called upon the American people to observe May 22 as National Maritime Day by displaying the American flag at their homes and other suitable places.

On National Maritime Day 50 years ago, the United States was engaged in a great World War. The United States merchant marine made victory possible by linking our production forces at home with our fighting forces overseas. Throughout our history, America's civilian seafarers have faithfully supported our military forces.

Thirty years ago, President John F. Kennedy cited the role of the American merchant marine in promoting world trade. "Our ships and the men who man them stand ready to serve the Nation in any cir-

cumstance and in all conditions of peaceful commerce or national emergency," he said.

On National Maritime Day 15 years ago, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York, was preparing to become the first Federal service academy to grant diplomas to women. The women who have since graduated from our service academies contribute significantly to our Nation's economic and military strength.

Today, America's merchant ships continue to provide jobs and economic benefits for America. The men and women who sail those ships and who serve in supporting industries are prepared to support the Nation in times of crisis. I ask all Americans to join me in saluting them on National Maritime Day, 1993.

In recognition of the importance of the U.S. merchant marine, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 20, 1933, has designated May 22 of each year as "National Maritime Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation calling for its appropriate observance.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 22, 1993, as National Maritime Day. I urge the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities and by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places. I also request that all ships sailing under the American flag dress ship on that day.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:24 p.m., May 21, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on May 25.

## **Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on Iraq's Compliance With United Nations Security Council Resolutions**

*May 21, 1993*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

Consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution (Public Law 102-1), and as part of my effort to keep the Congress fully informed, I am reporting on the status of efforts to obtain Iraq's compliance with the resolutions adopted by the U.N. Security Council.

My Administration insists on full Iraqi compliance with all U.N. Security Council resolutions. We support Iraqi territorial integrity and will continue to support international efforts designed to ensure that the Iraqi regime does not threaten international peace and security and that it stops the repression of its own people. We continue to work to ensure the integrity of the U.N. sanctions regime, which is the best means to promote Iraqi compliance.

In accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 687, the U.N. Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have conducted four inspections of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs since the events described in my last report. Three teams remained in Iraq conducting routine inspection activities: a group at Al Muthanna, where the destruction of chemical munitions continues; a team that is undertaking medium-to-long-term monitoring of missile research and development facilities; and an aerial inspection team.

Ongoing inspections reveal that Iraq still is not complying with applicable Security Council resolutions. In March, UNSCOM #52/IAEA #18 concluded that, of the 242 machine tools at the Hatteen Establishment, a large number should have been—but were not—included in Iraq's December 1991 declaration to the Security Council. U.N. Security Council Resolution 687 required Iraq to provide a comprehensive declaration in April 1991. The IAEA is now deciding what steps should be taken.